MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN)· (a)1271 cases in Delhi and 1344 cases in Bombay area regarding bogus reservations were detected during 1991 No case of fake tickets was detected in Delhi area, however, in Bombay area 107 second class fake tickets were confiscated during 1991.

(b) Surprise checks & raids are conducted by the Vigilance Organisations of all Zonal Railways including Vigilance (Special Squad) of Railway Board throughout the country to curb such mal-practices Under the Railways Act, 1989, the punishment for touts and also passengers who travel on unauthorised tickets has been substantially increased.

(ii) Public are educated/exhorted through Press, Television, Posters, etc not to buy tickets from unauthorised sources

(iii) Special concerted drives to check malpractices in the reservation officers are also undertaken atleast twice a year during summer rush, holidays and during Durga Pooja/ Dushera/Diwali periods

(iv) The penalty (fine) for passengers who travel on tickets purchased in fictitious or in the name of other persons, has likewise, been increased from Rs 250/- to Rs 500/-

(v) Checks are conducted in trains to detect passengers travelling on tickets purchased in fictitious names and they are treated as ticketless passengers

[*English*]

Recruitment of Employees

5445. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to curtail the recruitment of employees in railways in different categories,

(b) if so, the category-wise details thereof,

(c) the saving in administrative expenditure sought to be achieved as a result thereof, and

(d) the reasons for taking such decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) (a) and (b) No, Sir No such decision for blanket curtailment has been taken However, direct recruitment only in the categories of Office Clerks in scale Rs 950-1500 and Senior Clerks in scale Rs 1200 – 2040 has been curtailed by 25% and Accounts Clerks in scale Rs 950-1500 \and Junior Accounts Assistances in scale Rs 1200-2040 curtailed by 20% for the next two years

(c) The relative saving in administrative expenditure is very small as compared to total cost of staff of Indian Railways

(d) Because of series of measures adopted by Railways in regard to modernisation of offices, introduction of modern gadgets like Photocopying machines, electronic typewriters, computerisation activities, etc it was felt that there is scope to reduce clencal strength

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5446 SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state